

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fluid container, comprising:
a fluid container having at least one free fluid reservoir located in the container in side-by-side relationship with a negative pressure medium containing chamber and fluidly connected thereto; and
an fluid delivery port directly connecting the at least one free fluid reservoir and a fluid ejector to deliver fluid to the fluid ejector directly from the free fluid reservoir;
wherein the ratio of the volume of the free fluid reservoir and the negative pressure medium containing chamber is between about 0.3 to 1 and 3.0 to 1 and the free fluid reservoir and the negative pressure medium containing chamber are located, at least in part, over the fluid delivery port.
2. The fluid tank of claim 1, further comprising:
a filter which is located between the fluid delivery port and both the free fluid reservoir and the negative pressure medium chamber.
3. The fluid tank of claim 2, wherein the filter contacts a substantial portion of the cross-sectional area of the negative pressure material.
4. The fluid tank of claim 2, wherein the portion of the filter in contact with the negative pressure material is less than the area of the filter in contact with the free fluid reservoir.
5. The fluid tank of claim 2, wherein the negative pressure medium is separated from and located over the filter.
6. The fluid tank of claim 2, wherein the negative pressure medium is located over a greater area of the filter than the free fluid reservoir is located over.
7. The fluid tank of claim 2, wherein the negative pressure medium is located over approximately a same amount of area as the free fluid reservoir is located over.
8. The fluid contained of claim 2, further comprising at least one capillary element as part the filter.
9. The fluid container of claim 28, wherein the at least one capillary element is located between the filter and the negative pressure material.
10. The fluid tank of claim 1, wherein the negative pressure material is made of felt.
11. The fluid tank of claim 1, wherein the negative pressure medium is a non-woven material.

12. The fluid tank of claim 1, further comprising at least one bubble chamber located in the fluid container.

13. The fluid tank of claim 12, wherein the at least one bubble chamber is fluidly coupled to the negative pressure medium chamber.

14. The fluid container of claim 1, wherein the ratio is between 0.5 to 1 and 2 to 1.

15. The fluid container of claim 14, wherein the ratio is approximately 1 to 1.

16. The fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid chamber has a lid and the negative resistance material containing chamber is attached to the lid.

17. The fluid container of claim 1, further comprising at least one capillary element located between the negative pressure medium and the fluid delivery port.

18. The fluid container of claim 17, wherein the at least one capillary element comprises at least one rib.

19. The fluid container of claim 17, wherein the at least one capillary element is connected to the negative pressure medium.

20. The fluid container of claim 1, wherein the at least one capillary element is connected to the fluid delivery port.

21. The fluid container of claim 1, further comprising at least one manifold rib located in the fluid delivery port to space the negative pressure medium from the fluid delivery port.

22. A method of manufacturing different fluid containers on a single assembly line, comprising:

manufacturing a first type of fluid container lid having a first negative pressure material chamber configuration;

manufacturing a second type of fluid container lid having a second negative pressure material chamber configuration that differs from the first configuration;

manufacturing a fluid container which accepts the first and second lids; and

selecting one of the first and second lids to apply to the fluid container; and

applying the selected lid to the fluid container on the single assembly line.

23. An assembly kit for a fluid container usable in a marking device, the kit having component parts capable of being assembled together, the kit comprising the combination of:

a first type of fluid container lid having a first negative pressure material chamber configuration;

a second type of fluid container lid having a second negative pressure material chamber configuration that differs from the first configuration;

a fluid container which accepts the first and second lids;

a negative pressure material element; and

wherein when one of said first and second lids is selected to apply to the fluid container, and a negative pressure material element is selected to be placed in the fluid container, said selected lid, selected negative pressure material element and said fluid container may be assembled into a fluid container usable in the marking device.

24. A fluid container for a fluid marker having a print head, comprising:

a fluid container with a free fluid reservoir located in side-by-side relationship with a negative resistance material containing chamber and fluidly connected thereto; and

a fluid delivery port opening into the fluid container and directly connecting the free fluid reservoir and the print head to deliver fluid to the print head directly from the free fluid reservoir;

wherein the negative resistance material chamber is located completely over the fluid delivery port opening.

25. The ink tank of claim 24, further comprising a porous element located in the delivery port opening to support at least one of the free ink chamber and the negative resistance material chamber.

26. The fluid container of claim 24, further comprising at least one bubble chamber located within the fluid container.

27. The fluid container of claim 15, wherein the fluid container has a lid and the negative resistance material containing chamber is attached to the lid.

28. A method of passive pressure control of a print head cartridge comprising a free fluid reservoir and a negative pressure material chamber fluidly interconnected with the free fluid reservoir, the method comprising:

locating a fluid delivery port directly beneath more than half of both the free fluid reservoir and the negative pressure material chamber; and

delivering fluid from the cartridge only through the portion of the ink delivery port which is beneath the free fluid reservoir.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising:

establishing a ratio of the volume of the free fluid reservoir to the volume of the negative pressure material chamber of from about 0.3 to 1 to about 3.0 to 1.

30. The method of claim 21, wherein the ratio is about 1 to 1.

31. The method of claim 28, further comprising:
providing the negative pressure material in the form of a felt material.